

Saint Louis Audubon

Bulletin

VOLUME 42, NUMBER 3

FALL, 1976

MEMBERS MEETING

Friday, October 1, 1976 8:00 P.M. Ethical Society, 9001 Clayton Road

MISSOURI - TWO CRUCIAL ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES

OUTSTANDING FILM AND SLIDES

Members and guests of the St. Louis Audubon Society will have an opportunity not only to become well-informed on two very important issues, but will be privileged to see some excellent movies and slides.

The first of these issues is the Design for Conservation. Herb Schwartz, who is in charge of the St. Louis office of the Missouri Department of Conservation, will show a superb movie explaining the need for the 1/8 of 1 percent sales tax to be requested in the November election and describing how this money will be used to acquire some of our state's endangered land and improve some that is already owned. St. Louis Audubon members helped circulate the petitions to put this proposal on the ballot, and their help is still needed to get it passed.

This may be the last opportunity to obtain adequate financial support for our Conservation Department, which is known and respected as one of the best in the country, and until now has hunting and fishing licenses as its only source of revenue (except for a small appropriation for forestry). Those who view this movie cannot help but be enthusiastic over the plans to make Missouri's conservation program the best in the country.

The second issue is the Missouri Wilderness legislation now being considered in Congressional committees. John Karel, Chairman of the Wilderness Committee of the Ozark Chapter of the Sierra Club, will give an illustrated talk showing pictures of the areas to be designated as Wilderness if this legislation passes, and bringing us up to date on the status of these bills now before the committee. Missouri originally was composed of 44 million acres of wilderness. Missouri presently has not one designated unit of the National Wilderness Preservation System, in spite of the unique wilderness qualities of the Ozarks.

HR14530 is sponsored by representatives Symington and Bolling and is "To provide for the study of certain lands to determine their suitability for designation as wilderness and to designate one area as a wilderness." The one area to be designated would be Hercules. A second bill - HR 2975, sponsored by Representative Burlison proposes "to designate certain lands in the Mingo National Wildlife Refuge, Wayne and Stoddard Counties, Missouri, as wilderness."

Mr. Karel is eminently fitted to speak on this subject, since he presented the Sierra Club's testimony on both bills before the Sub-committee hearings. Most of our senators and representatives are in favor of these bills and should be encouraged to work for their passage and for the addition of the Irish Wilderness to the package as recommended in the Sierra Club testimony.

Focus on the



Environment

By Betty Wilson



WATER POLLUTION CONTROL

The on-going session of Congress has had under consideration for many months amendments to the Clean Air Act. It appears that Air Amendments will be passed, for better or worse, before scheduled adjournment October 1.

The most important environmental matter to be considered by the next session of Congress will be amendments to the Water Pollution Control Law (PL 92-500). Around the election will be the ideal time to discuss possible amendments with your Congressman.

I was fortunate enough to attend a Seminar in Washington in April which discussed the present law and some of the changes suggested by the Rockefeller Commission (National Commission on Water Quality). Many of their proposals would seriously weaken the present Water Pollution Control Law. Some of my notes follow:

SEMINAR: NATIONAL COMMISSION ON WATER QUALITIES RECOMMENDATION TO CONGRESS FOR CHANGES IN THE FEDERAL WATER POLLUTION CONTROL ACT.

The most effective pollution control law that has ever been adopted by a legislative body was the "1972 Amendments" to the Water Pollution Control Law (92-500). Major goals of the 1972 Water Law are as follows:

- A. July 1, 1977 - secondary treatment requirements for publicly owned treatment works and best practicable technology requirement for industry.
- B. 1983 - Water quality goal of "fishable/swimmable waters" and best available technology for industrial discharges.
- C. 1985 - requirement that there be no discharge of pollutants into the public waters.

The law itself provided for the appointment of a National Commission on Water Quality to make recommendations to Congress for a mid-term correction of the law. (The Commission was composed of five senators, five representatives and five members of the public.)

At their final meeting after more than three years of studying the Water Act and how it should be amended, the commissioners voted to recommend that Congress consider amendments in the following areas:

- Congress should authorize extensions, and in some cases outright waivers, of the July 1, 1977, secondary treatment requirement for publicly owned treatment works and of the July 1, 1977, best practicable technology requirement for industry.
- While retaining the 1983 water quality goal of "fishable/swimmable" waters Congress should postpone for five to ten years the 1983 requirement of best available technology for industrial dischargers. However, the Commission recommended that effluent limitations to eliminate discharge of toxic pollutants in toxic concentrations be implemented "as soon as possible," but no later than October 1, 1980.
- Congress should authorize certification of states for planning and administering the municipal sewage treatment construction grants program and the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System, once the states meet certain specified criteria.
- Congress should assure 75 percent federal financing under the construction grants program of between \$5 and \$10 billion over five to ten years.
- Congress should "redefine" the 1985 goal of zero discharge of pollutants to encourage recycling, reuse, land application, and other means of waste management.
- Congress should authorize "flexibility" in applying water pollution control measures to irrigated agriculture.

Senator Muskie, a member of the Commission, said he opposes "the basic thrust of the recommendations, which I find simply inconsistent" with each other and with the Commission's charter. Reading from Section 315 of the Water Act, which established the National Commission, Muskie said Congress had "deliberately" directed the Commission to study the 1983 requirements of the Act, and not the 1977 requirements. He said the 1977 requirements had been established as a "minimum" from which the Commission now wants to retreat.

Muskie criticized the recommendations also for, in his opinion, recommending a retreat from the effluent limitations approach of the 1972 amendments to the Act in favor of a return to the water quality approach of earlier federal laws.

By encouraging elimination of the zero-discharge goal, the Commission would establish a situation in which "we're going to be very busy running around locking the stables after the horse is stolen," Muskie said.

EPA'S QUARLES, NCWQ'S MOORE, SMITH doubt Commission recommendations

Adoption of the National Commission on Water Quality's final recommendations to Congress would lead to environmental and financial "setbacks" and would undermine "the entire national effort to control water pollution," according to the Environmental Protection Agency.

EPA Deputy Administrator John R. Quarles, Jr., said April 6 that the Commission's "far reaching proposals" to "knock several loopholes through the 1977 requirements and to postpone the 1983 objectives by as much as ten years" are "just plain wrong."

Although the NCWQ recommendations had their supporters among speakers at the Water Pollution Control Federation's Washington, D.C., Governmental Affairs Seminar, the final recommendations were criticized in part also by NCWQ Program Director Joe G. Moore, Jr., and Deputy Program Director James N. Smith. Moore and Smith, along with NCWQ Executive Director Frederick J. Clarke, were the authors of the recommendations submitted to the 15 Commission members (Current Developments, March 5, p. 1865, p. 1890).

Both Moore and Smith have expressed some dissatisfaction with the actual wording of some of the final recommendations. Quarles' criticisms of the Commission's recommendations dealt primarily with the suggested relaxation of the 1977 and 1983 requirements and with the suggestion that effluent limitations for toxic substances be implemented by 1980.

He said the 1977 industrial requirement for best practicable technology should be extended in only a "few exceptional cases" and not as a "matter of course". The broad exemptions - and in some cases outright waivers - seemingly backed by the Commission's final recommendations would reward dischargers who had intentionally delayed complying with the 1977 requirements, Quarles said, and would be "totally unfair" to companies which had attempted to meet the deadline.

"Experience indicates that, in general, the 1977 deadline for industrial dischargers was realistic and can be achieved," Quarles said. In cases where the deadline cannot be achieved, "some flexibility will be necessary, but not nearly the amount at least suggested by the Commission's recommendations." Where extensions are necessary, Congress should impose "some form of economic incentive" to encourage dischargers to comply expeditiously, Quarles said.

The Commission's apparent suggestion that the 1977 industrial requirements be waived in some cases would permit exemptions when dischargers show that costs "appear" to exceed benefits. "It is administratively impossible to measure the benefits of specific abatement actions by every individual discharger on every specific waterway", Quarles said. The mere prospect of such a waiver provision would be a "nightmare" for EPA and the states, he said. "Such a provision would encourage every discharger to hire economic consultants to prepare a study showing that the cost of meeting the 1977 standards exceeds the benefits for his particular facility." While the studies were being evaluated, "no action would be taken to achieve compliance with the existing permit."

The Commission's recommendations on waivers of the 1977 requirements "could become the most powerful engine yet devised for further delay," Quarles said. "Once that door is opened, there can be only one result - a wholesale effort to undermine the 1977 requirements."

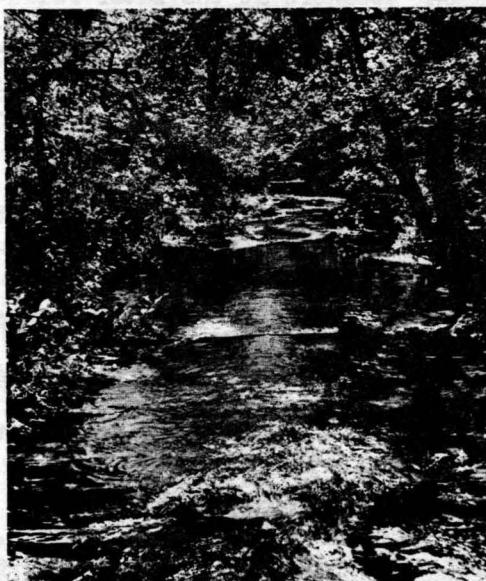
The Commission recommended retaining the 1983 "fishable, swimmable" goal, Quarles said, but, "in the same breath" suggested that the requirements needed to meet the goal be delayed five to ten years. Together with its recommendation that controls on toxic pollutants be accelerated, Quarles said the Commission's recommendations are "mutually inconsistent, undesirable, and hopelessly impractical."

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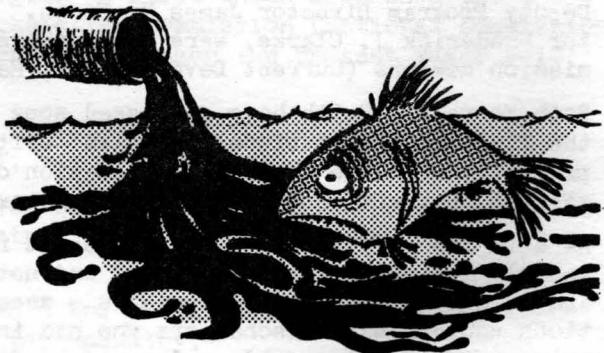
A "massive delay" in the 1983 requirements is not supported by the Commission staff's report, Quarles said, noting that the staff report does recommend "some delay" in the 1983 attainment date. "Had the staff report indicated that the cost of achieving the 1983 requirements was exorbitant, there might be some basis for the Commission's recommendation," Quarles said. However, he noted, the staff report said that the cost of meeting 1983 requirements would be less than for the 1977 requirements. "What this suggests is that there are no insuperable economic or technical barriers to achieving the 1983 requirements, and thus assuring all Americans of "fishable, swimmable" water by that date or shortly after."

The NCWQ recommendation that interim steps be provided as a condition for approving the delay of 1983 requirements amounts to a periodic review and upgrading of the 1977 requirements, Quarles said, especially in areas in which 1977 requirements would not achieve water quality standards. "What this means is that dischargers would be encouraged to tighten the requirements, rather than install better treatment technology." Regulatory agencies would be "saddled with a heavy burden of proof and forced to cross all the hurdles of cumbersome procedures for each individual case," Quarles said.

He said the Commission's recommendations would substitute water quality standards, and "all the problems associated with them," for technology-based standards. "Simply stated, the Commission would have us repudiate the approach Congress adopted in 1972 in favor of the approach Congress rejected in 1972. It is unlikely under these circumstances that genuine progress could occur."



National Park Service



PROGRESS? ? ?



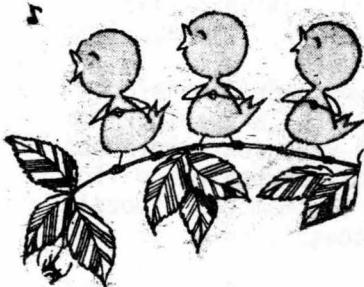
JOIN NATURE CONSERVANCY ON A TRIP TO BUFORD MOUNTAIN ON SATURDAY OCTOBER 23

The meeting place is Elephant Rocks State Park at 11:00 A. M. (Highway 21 just north of Graniteville). Bring your own lunch.

Buford Mountain, the second highest peak in Missouri, is the magnificent ridge that adjoins Leonard Hall's Possum Trot Farm and is mentioned with frequency in his newspaper columns. Len and Virginia Hall are planning to join us and will lead short hikes on the mountain.

The Nature Conservancy is the only nation-wide non-profit organization whose resources are devoted solely to the preservation of outstanding natural areas. The Missouri Chapter is committed to an urgent course of action to acquire the best and most vital of our remaining natural areas through direct acquisition. Buford Mountain is one of the high priority areas.

For further information about this outstanding organization, contact Mrs. Joel Massie, #6 Indian Hill Dr., St. Louis 63124. (Telephone 993-4926)



The Annual Fall Nature Outing will be held at Pickering's Sunny Ranch on Sunday September 19. Arrival may be any time after 10 A.M. Take I-70 to the Foristell exit, turn left at the overpass and follow Highway T about five miles south to Highway M, right on Highway M $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles to Highway O, then left on O for about two miles. Look for a red gate with a sign on a pole to your left. The house is $\frac{1}{2}$ mile from the gate.

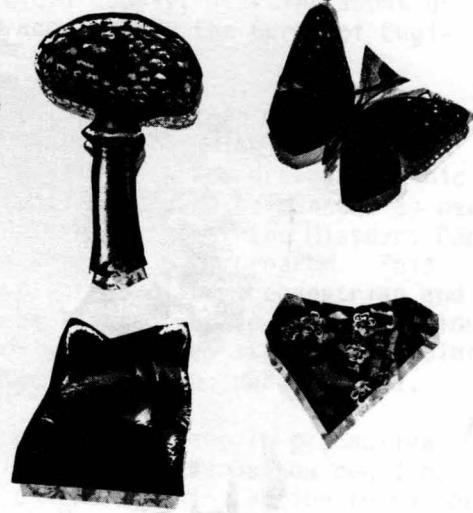


This 500 acres of scenic woodlands and fields with its many ponds and bluebirds is a St. Louis favorite. The gracious hospitality of the Pickerings is always an added attraction. The nature workshops will be held as usual after a picnic lunch. (each family brings its own.)

Unfortunately the Pickering's picturesque 100-year old cottage which housed the bird display was struck by lightning on August 14. The building suffered extensive damage resulting from the fire following the lightning. The fire departments of Marthasville and Wright City responded within 10 minutes and as a result the building was saved, but the back portion was badly damaged. The lake in front of the house provided a source of water to fight the fire successfully. However, the north front room where the larger birds were kept was gutted and 25 of the birds were burned beyond recognition. The south front room which held the cases of birds was smoke-damaged and the birds are now in the process of being cleaned, but the job will not be completed until next spring. Several of the birds will have to be "sent to the cleaner", especially the Snowy Owl which was donated by Connie Hath. A better name for him now might be "Smoky Owl". Not as serious, but disheartening, was the ruining of the fresh paint job which the Pickering grandchildren had just completed. A smaller bird display will be in the museum building until it is decided whether the cottage can be renovated and again used to display birds.

Workshops and leaders:

Botany	Art Christ, Dorothy Cole
Edible Wild Plants	Bill Brush
Birds	Claudia Spener
Entomology	Marshall Magner
General Nature	Mary Wiese
Nature Photography	Charles and Clara Hill
Pond Life	Katherine Chambers



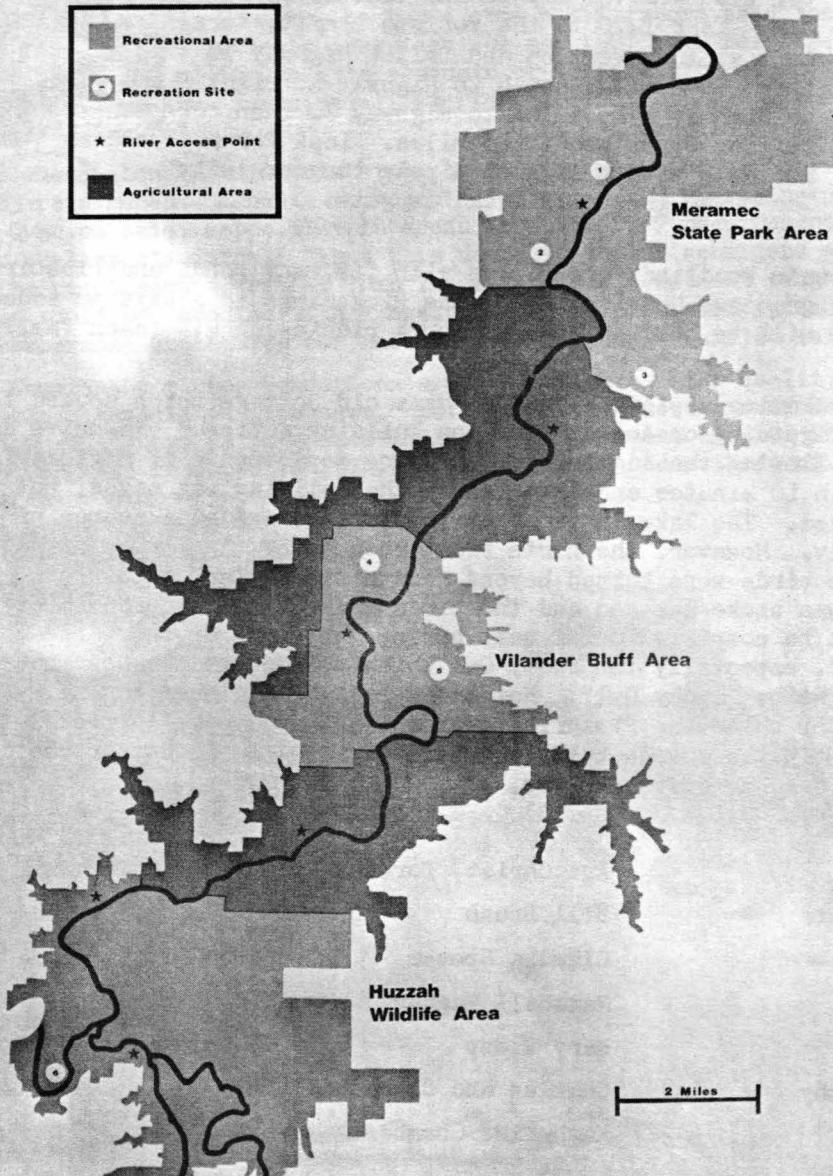
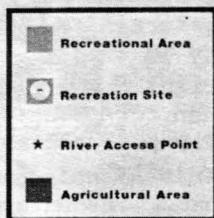
Volunteers — The Lifeblood of the Garden

If you love the outdoors, are fascinated by unusual plants, intrigued by children's curiosity, enjoy talking while walking - the Guide Program at the Missouri Botanical Garden may be the place for you. There will be a training program for new guides from 9:30 - 12 noon on 8 successive Tuesdays starting in January, 1977. After completing the course each guide will be asked to commit one day a week when she will be expected to conduct one or two one-hour tours.

It's fun and fulfilling, you lead and you learn. And Shaw's Garden abounds in birds!

MERAMEC ALTERNATIVE PLAN

• PROJECT AREA •



Sierra Club • Meramec Dam Alternative Plan • 1976



At the present time the Sierra Club is not asking Congress to adopt its plan, only to review it. The specific proposal asks Congress to take the following steps:

- 1) Authorize and fund a federal review of the alternative plan by the Bureau of Outdoor Recreation, including the preparation of an environmental impact statement and detailed cost estimate.
- 2) Hold public hearings in Missouri on the dam and non-dam alternatives.
- 3) Order a General Accounting Office Review of the Meramec Dam project economics.
- 4) Declare a moratorium on further project development pending the completion of this federal review and its consideration by Congress.
- 5) Set a deadline for the completion of this review.

FRESH HOPE FOR THE MERAMEC

MERAMEC ALTERNATIVE PLAN - A condensation of an article in the Ozark Sierran, August, 1976 by Jerry Sugerman, Chairman of the Ozark Chapter of the Sierra Club. (with permission from Mr. Sugerman)

The Sierra Club announced this alternative to the Meramec Dam project in July, in an effort to resolve the conflict over this issue. Recently the advisability of the project has been questioned not only by Missouri citizens but within federal and state government circles. A poll conducted for the Midwest Motorist (August, 1976 issue) shows that a vast majority of Missouri AAA members are opposed to the dam. Even within a 20-mile radius of the proposed dam, 68.5% were opposed.

The Sierra Club's alternative would provide for key water-related needs and a vast complement of new recreational opportunities. It would accommodate more than 4.8 million visitor days of recreation annually compared with the 3.8 million projected for the Meramec Dam. It would insure that high quality recreational, agricultural and wildlife resources will be maintained into the future without degradation. It would meet the flood control purpose of this project for far less cost than damming the river. It would a means of recovering the major expenditures to date and effect a substantial cost savings over the construction of Meramec Park Dam alor just one of five in the current proposal.

The preparation of this new plan was a joint venture of the Crawford County Rural Landowners Mutual Assistance Association; the Open Space Council, St. Louis Region; and several public-spirited planners including Eldridge Lovelace of Harland Bartholomew Associates, Neil Porterfield of HOK Associates, and John Lark, all working in cooperation with the Sierra Club. In addition, crucial help was provided by the Denver office of the Bureau of Outdoor Recreation, the Missouri Conservation Department and the St. Louis County Planning Department. It was the last three who were instrumental in obtaining the statistics on types of recreation desired and facilities available.

The Meramec Dam Project area covers about 38,000 acres in Crawford County, starting about 65 miles southwest of St. Louis. 26,000 acres have been already acquired by the Corps of Engineers. About half of this would be inundated under the Corps' plan.

Under the alternative plan 12,700 acres of acquired land, including both steep woodlands and low lying fields, would be utilized for recreation, and 15,400 acres for agriculture.

Recreation: 2000 acres would be developed with recreational facilities - campgrounds, picnic areas, play fields, playgrounds, swimming pools, stables and trail heads, to be managed as part of the state park system; 1800 acres would be placed under the management of the Missouri Conservation Department for wildlife habitat in connection with a sharecropping program. This would leave about 8900 acres of steep woodlands for the development of hiking, equestrian and interpretative nature trails. Four river access points would be located within the recreational area at approximate 5-mile intervals. Two access points would be located at isolated points within the agricultural areas. Services provided would include a boat ramp, parking area, trash collection and sanitary facilities.

Agriculture: 15,400 acres would be retained for agricultural use. These are in productive areas and include farms whose family ownerships are historically rooted. Lands now owned by the Corps of Engineers would be offered back to the original owners with the option to buy or lease. Restrictive covenants would be imposed on all land transactions to insure that these farms remain in agricultural use and are adequately protected from incompatible developments. For flood control, portions of the lower Meramec River floodway would be cleared of urban encroachments through a federally funded voluntary relocation program. There are not more than 1200 acres of these encroachments - mostly on blighted land, not equal in value to the cost of protecting it by dams.

* 80% of the developmental costs for all recreational areas would be borne by the federal government during the first five years. This liberal amount is dictated by the fact that the alternative would replace a project which currently relies almost entirely on federal funding.

If you wish to have a slide program of the alternative plan presented to your group, please write The Speakers Bureau
Ozark Chapter of the Sierra Club
P.O. Box 12424, St. Louis, Mo. 63132.

Extra copies of Mr. Sugerman's article may be obtained by writing to the Ozark Chapter of the Sierra Club, P.O. Box 12424 or calling their answer service 727-2311

THE OWLS OF AUGUST

By Mary Wiese

Owls. I'm grossly ignorant on the subject of owls - and also totally fascinated by them. Obviously, this fascination is not mine alone. Back through the years we have many examples. The symbol of the wisdom of Athena was her owl. Shakespeare and other poets have many references to owls, owls which call "tu-whit, tu-whoo." Besides their reputation for wisdom owls have always had an association with magic and evil - with the witches and cats of All Hallow's Eve.

I remember seeing the European Little Owl (*Athene noctua*) perched quite fittingly high on the Parthenon in Athens. I suspect that I remember vividly every owl I've ever actually seen, including the obliging saw-whet that allowed so many of us a peek last November in the pine grove at Busch Wildlife Sanctuary. To move from the sublime to the ridiculous, his perch was marked by a torn TV dinner carton! The original owl-finder had picked it up in the grove and placed it under the roosting tree to mark the spot for others.

That saw-whet was a very special life-bird for me since two years before in June I had convinced myself that we had a saw-whet in our own backyard pines. Bill had seen him flutter across the yard in the dusk and managed him for me with a flashlight. There he was, a perfectly round-headed little owl with absolutely no sign of tufts. By the time I got a book to check his markings he was gone and I could never be sure of him. But - he was roundheaded.

This year in June the mystery was solved when not one, but three, roundheaded little owls flew across our darkening sky. It didn't take the book to make me realize that these hissing creatures were baby screech owls, and so, undoubtedly, was the earlier bird.

Now I have a new question. It's obvious that young screech owls are flying in June. I know that most owls nest very early in the year. But why do I hear the screech owl only in August? My records back to 1965 show I've almost never missed them if I've been here in that month. Each night now (August 21) for the past week we've heard the typical whinnying and the tremolo on one note. One night we were able to catch the bird with the flashlight, horns very much in evidence, obviously annoyed at this intrusion on his public-private business!

My other owl of August was the great-horned we heard across the Green River in northern Massachusetts. Each evening he called from a perch among the hemlocks and beeches, very near the point on the hillside which we had learned to watch for the first light of the increasing moon. One night he flew across to our side of the river and I had a look at him before he flew up the next range of hills. Shortly afterwards we heard a shot and I was horror-stricken to think that he searching for him I might have driven him within range of a gun. We were greatly relieved to hear him again the next evening, right back where he belonged. No female answered him, but a record check reminds me that in August, 1964, we heard three of the big owls talking to each other across a lake in Wisconsin.

I've probably seen more great-horned than any other species of owl. There have been nestings every year in the St. Louis area which were observable by birders. The most distressing one was near the archery range in Creve Coeur Park - with a hunting arrow embedded just inches below the nest, high in an old sycamore.

I like seeing owls, but since they are essentially birds of mystery and superstition, perhaps hearing them is better. I look forward each evening to our tremulous whinnier; I like being in Missouri river bottoms to catch old eight-hooter, the barred owl, doing his thing. But the great-horned is the best of all. Nothing can quite equal the authority of a great-horned owl's deep hollow bass notes proclaiming his territory. I hope our Green River bird found a mate and will be back again next August for his evening announcements.

Mary Wiese will have a series of ten bird classes at her home in Kirkwood again this fall on Monday mornings and Monday afternoons. Geared primarily for beginners, they will start in mid-September. For further information call 965-2310.



SAW-WHET OWL
Aegolius acadicus

EUROPEAN LITTLE OWL
Athene noctua



SCREECH OWL
Otus asio



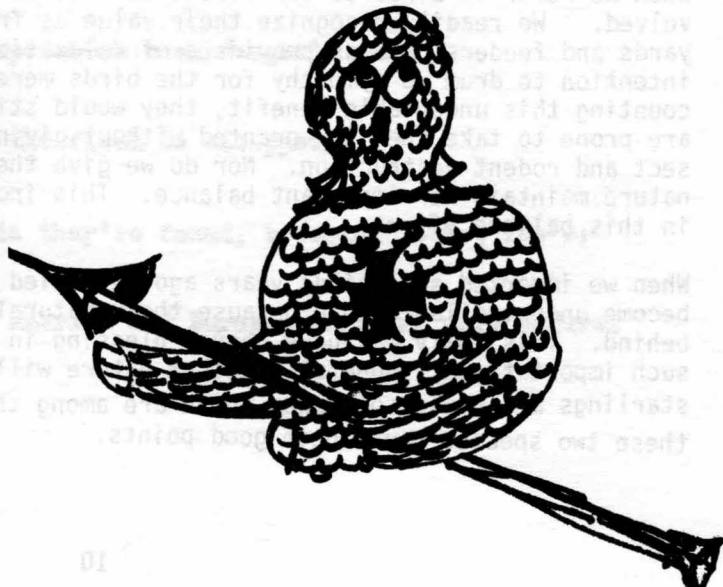
GREAT HORNED OWL
Bubo virginianus



BARRED OWL
Strix varia

Drawings by Clare Condon

P "KNIGHT" OWL





St. Louis Area Birding during April, May and June

By J. Earl Comfort

In our area the months of April, May and June are by far the most exciting from a birder's standpoint, as well as inspiring for nature photographers, botanists and other nature buffs. Most of our warblers and many other kinds of birds reach their migration peak during May. By mid-June, except for a few stragglers, the migrants have all passed through the St. Louis area leaving us with only our permanent residents and summer visitors, which comprise our nesters. However, since we are on the fringe of the more northern nesting species, we enjoy a few individual nesters belonging to species that usually pass us by. We consider them bonus birds. In the fall we also have a few winter visitants from species that ordinarily winter south of us.

The month of April ushered in our migration season in earnest after a few early birds had come in. Some of the rarest species during this month were red-throated loon, Louisiana heron and prairie falcon.

May favored us with several excellent migration waves. When an "ill wind" cold front hit us, we complained, but since cold fronts usually stall migrating birds, the following few days are a birder's paradise. We were fortunate to have chosen May 8 for our Audubon area count, since one of these cold fronts, with accompanying raw winds, just preceded the event. In this count only the kinds of species are listed. Since we strive to list 100 or more from midnight to midnight of the day, it has been called a century run. Nocturnal birds are located by ear.

Connie Hath compiled the total phoned in to her by many groups and individuals. Many of these boasted 100 or more to help make up the composite list of 189. Jack Van Benthuysen led with 148 species. Warblers contributed 33 kinds and shore birds 22. While the count was the main attraction, the pleasant day was conducive to many hours of enjoyment afield.

The best birds in June were laughing gull, Mississippi kite and white pelican. Some of the highlights of the spring birding were the bird walks open to the public sponsored by the St. Louis Audubon Society - 4 in Forest Park and 2 in Shaw's Garden. As of July first our area composite list stood at 276 species with several local birders boasting more than 200 kinds on their 1976 St. Louis vicinity lists.

OUR FEATHERED FRIENDS, DESTROYERS OF INSECTS

By J. Earl Comfort

When we refer to birds as our feathered friends a great deal more than sentimentality is involved. We readily recognize their value as friends of the shutins when they visit their yards and feeders, and as providers of relaxation on our nature walks. However it isn't my intention to drum up sympathy for the birds merely because they brighten our environment. Discounting this undeniable benefit, they would still be our feathered friends extraordinary. We are prone to take them for granted without giving them due credit for a tremendous job of insect and rodent destruction. Nor do we give them enough credit for their part in helping nature maintain her important balance. This includes the predators which are her chief allies in this balance effort.

When we imported some birds years ago we failed to consider the possibility that they would become uncontrollable here because their natural controls in their native habitats were left behind. This folly may have been a blessing in disguise since it led to strict rules against such importations. Hopefully Mother Nature will eventually provide the needed controls over starlings and house sparrows, which are among the most disastrous importations, although even these two species have their good points.

On the day after the cold front hit St. Louis last May, some trees were full of birds while others harbored only a few or none. Of course the cause of these bird concentrations were insect infestations that were providing easy pickings. Nature's helpers were eagerly assisting in bringing the enemies of the trees under control. No complete eradication is intended. Only man destroys wildlife to the point of no return, although not always intentionally.

There is no closed season on insect destruction by our bird allies. In the dead of winter many species police the trees in search of insect eggs or larvae, which, if permitted to develop, could harm or destroy our trees.

While insects build up an immunity against insecticides, unfortunately birds, the biggest enemies of these insects, do not. There is no valid argument in favor of indiscriminate spraying at the expense of birds and other beneficial forms of wildlife. Everyone knows we would be in deep trouble without bees to pollinate some of our crops. It may be later than we think as far as the effects of harmful spraying. At the present rate of destruction of our natural benefactors, we may indeed experience a "silent spring"



FLAMINGOS

by Rachel F. Silberman

Flamingos are quite versatile;

They change their colors, keep in style,

The baby's white, grows pink to red,

Their neck is long, their feet are webbed.



Their flocks are large, and when they fly,

Form triangles up in the sky.

They trumpet-honk when danger's near

And warn the flock to disappear;

In Florida they're found, becoming fewer, few'r;

In South America and Europe, more and more endure.



AUDUBON WILDLIFE FILMS



The St. Louis Audubon Society will again offer in 1976-77, the Wildlife Film Series free of charge to the general public. October 22, Stefan A. Kling will present The Vanishing Eden. On November 26, Burdette E. White will show and narrate Vanishing American Wildlife and March 4, C.P. Lyons bring to the Society The Resplendent Land. Also, there will be two additional local program . Folders giving dates and descriptions will be mailed to Society members.



BE WISE

If you move from one place to another in the St. Louis area and want to continue getting Audubon magazine without interruption, don't forget to notify the National Audubon Society.



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On receipt of renewal notice return punch card with your check to National Audubon in envelope provided.

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Application for Joint Membership

Please check the membership you desire:

Individual	<input type="checkbox"/>	\$15.00 per year	Contributing	<input type="checkbox"/>	\$100.00 per year
Family	<input type="checkbox"/>	\$18.00 per year	Donor	<input type="checkbox"/>	\$250.00 per year
Sustaining	<input type="checkbox"/>	\$30.00 per year	Patron	<input type="checkbox"/>	\$500.00 per year
Supporting	<input type="checkbox"/>	\$50.00 per year	Life Member	<input type="checkbox"/>	\$1,000.00

Name Please Print

Address

City State..... Zip

CHAPTER: If a chapter of the National Audubon Society exists in your vicinity, you will be assigned to that chapter unless you indicate a different choice.

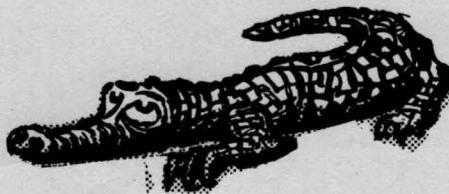
SPECIAL Chapter Choice #2602

IMPORTANT: Please indicate if this is a new membership or renewal payment

Please make checks payable to: — National Audubon Society
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CONSERVATION CALENDAR



SEPTEMBER AND OCTOBER, 1976

September 2, 9, 16, 13, 30 Thursdays WGNSS BIRDING - Call Rose Ann Bodman, 961-2583 or Helen Bowman, 531-1748 for meeting time and place.

September 10 Friday 8:00 P.M. WGNSS GENERAL MEETING - St. Louis County Library, Lindbergh just south of Clayton Road. Slide program showing many of Dick Grossenheider's water colors, shown by his nephew, Jerry Emich. He is asking for help in locating some of the originals.

September 11 Saturday 8:00 A.M. WGNSS BIRDING - Shorebirds in Illinois. Meet at Illinois Highway 203 and Bend Road. For more information call Tom Brooks, 771-2731 or Rose Ann Bodman, 961-2583.

September 11 Saturday ACCLIMATIZATION WALK AT THE ARBORETUM organized by the Environmental Education Committee of the Sierra Club. For more information call Ed Schmidt, 962-1096

September 13 Monday 9 P.M. CHANNEL NINE OUR VANISHING WILDERNESS "Santa Barbara - Everybody's Mistake"

September 13 Monday 7:30 P.M. Piasa Palisades Group, Sierra Club. First Presbyterian Church, 4th and Alby, Alton, Illinois.

September 18 & 19 Saturday and Sunday Hike/ Canoe the Irish Wilderness. Join the EMG * Wilderness Committee as they experience the Irish Wilderness on foot and in canoes. For details, contact Les Harmon, 447-5248, or Barb Muhlack, 428-2438.

September 19 Sunday St. Louis Audubon - WGNSS Fall Outing For details see announcement on p. 5 of the St. Louis Audubon Fall Bulletin.

September 19 Sunday Trail Building Outing - The first in a series. Contact Larry Wicklund, 878-8140, or Bill Hagen, 428-1489.

September 20 Monday EMG Wilderness/ Forestry Committee Meeting Call Jim Young, 752-9269 for details.

September 25 Saturday WGNSS BIRDING - Busch Wildlife Area - 8:00 A.M.. Meet at parking area at Ahden Hampton Memorial Lake. Bring binoculars and lunch.

September 25 Saturday Picnic to benefit the Upper Mississippi Task Force and the fight against Locks and Dam 26. Call John Cunningham, 726-0176 for details.

October 1 Friday 8:00 P.M. ST. LOUIS AUDUBON MEMBERS MEETING Ethical Society, 9001 Clayton Road. Outstanding films and slides on pressing conservation issues. See article on front page of the Fall Bulletin.

October 1 Friday Ozark Chapter, Sierra Slide Show and discussion of Local Environmental Issues. For information call Shirley Burns, 645-3965.

October 2 Saturday One day float on the Meramec to see some of the area we are fighting to save. Call Ed Schmidt, 962-1096.

October 5 Tuesday 7:45 P.M. St. Louis Audubon Society Photographic Meeting Clayton Federal Savings and Loan, Lockwood and Elm. Show and Tell Program - up to 8 slides per person. Host Floyd Erickson.

October 8 Friday 8:00 P.M. WGNSS GENERAL MEETING. St. Louis County Library, Lindbergh just south of Clayton Road.

October 20 Wednesday PROGRAM FOR TEACHERS Sponsored by the Environmental Education Committee of the Sierra Club, this will be a program for anyone interested in using Sierra Club materials in the classroom or in extra-curricular activities. Call Ed Schmidt for details, 962-1096.

October 23 Saturday NATURE CONSERVANCY TRIP TO BUFORD MOUNTAIN Meet at Elephant Rocks State park at 11:00 A.M. Leonard Hall and his wife will help conduct the trip. For further details, see p. 4 of the fall bulletin.